THE GLOVE AND THE LIONS

THEMES

1.) **Vanity vs true love:**

The poem's central theme is the contrast between true love and vanity. The lady's idea of dropping her glove before the king and the nobles is driven by a desire for attention and admiration. She considers it as a perfect moment to test the Count's devotion and make herself look important and admired in front of everyone.. Her request for the Count to retrieve her glove is not a genuine test of love but rather a self-serving performance.

2.) **Bravery and chivalry:**

The theme of bravery and chivalry is shown in Count de Lorge's bold jump into the lion's pit to retrieve the dropped glove. This act shows these qualities perfectly. He risks his life for the one he loves, which shows honour, courage and selflessness, which are associated with chivalry. The poem highlights the Count's bravery, portraying him as a hero who keeps these important qualities even when facing danger.

TONE AND MOOD

The tone of the poem is both dramatic and satirical. The mood of the poem is a mix of dramatic tension, irony and satire.

__/__/____

SATIRE AND IRONY

The poem pokes fun at the excesses of royal life, hinting at King Francis as pleasure-seeking. The courtly love scenario is also satirised, with the lady's actions revealing the superficiality of her love. The poem uses irony to highlight the disconnect between appearance and reality, revealing the lady's bold action to be motivated by vanity rather than true love. This satire and irony add a layer of depth and complexity to the poem, inviting the reader to think critically about the themes and characters.